PROF. HUXLEY'S THEORY. DR. DEEMS ADDRESSES PROF. YOUMANS-WHAT HAS

BEEN DEMONSTRATED AND WHAT HAS NOT-IS MATTER INDESTRUCTIBLE!

To the Editor of The Tribune. Six: Allow me through your paper to make an appeal to Prof. Youmans. As between Prof. Huxley and the Rev. Dr. William M. Taylor I have nothing to say. But in the December number of The Pomular Science

Monthly Prof. Youmans reviews an article written by

the latter gentlemen and prolished in THE TRIBUNE. He

is amply able to take care of himself, and I have not a

word to say in his defense. But in his article the Professor makes several assumptions and statements which have suggested questions I would fain propound to him. 1. He says: "A theory is said to be demonstrated when it brings all the known facts into agreement, explains them, excludes all other interpretations, and is consistent with itself and all that is understood of the ways of Nature." Did Prof. Huxley "bring all the known facts into agreement?" Did he show that his theory was " consistent with all that is understood of the ways of Nature!" Did he not tacitly admit that he was not able to show that his theory was "in agreement" with what physical astronomy teaches us of the "ways of

2. The Professor says that "it is a demonstrated fact that life has existed on the globe through periods so vast as to be incalculable." Where, when, and how was this ever "demonstrated?" Has it not been shown that within a period not "incalculable" life could not have existed on this globe?

3. The Professor says that "it is a demonstrated truth of Nature that mafter is indestructible." When, where, and how was this ever "demonstrated i" Even if it be true that matter is indestructible, can it be demonstrated? Dare any but an infinite intellect make such an assertion? Can a finite intellect know more than this, namely, that as yet no mechanical or chemical means have been discovered by which matter can be

destroyed? 4. The Professor says that Prof. Huxley's "antago nists hold that the inflexible order of Nature may be as serted perhaps in astronomy, but they deay it in Will be be good enough to refer me to one of the Professor's antagonists who "holds" that opinion ?

5. The Professor says that "if we assume the cause of Nature, development is inevitable; it is evolu-tion or nothing." Are "development" and "evolution" identical? Caunot a scient fic man believe in "development" and reject "evolution?" 6. The Professor says "we are told that each link in

e chain of Prof. Huxley's horse was a special creation But who tells us this, and what do they know about it? Will Pref. Youmans have the goodness to answer his own double question? Who does tell us this? What does he know about it? What does the Professor or Prof. Haxley know about it? These questions are submitted for information. Let us

be laught. I am perfectly willing to be instructed by Dr. Taylor in religion and by Prof. Youmans in science, and have grown so old that I am not ashamed to confess seriously my ignorance on the six questions now mest respectfully submitted to one who, having affirmed these things, must be able to make his statements good. New York, Dec. 12, 1876.

OLD AND NEW PRINCETON. A REPLY TO DR. WAUD-THE NEW DEPARTMENTS OF

STUDY-EXPLANATIONS FROM THE EDITOR OF "THE PRINCETONIAN."

To the Editor of The Tribune. SIR: Dr. Ward's letter in THE TRIBUNE of

Dec. 25, in which he returns to the attack on Princeton College, has lately been brought to my notice, and as an Aditorial in The Princelonian of Dec. 14 seems to have provoked this last communication from him, I ber, on be half of the college paper, briefly to exclain its position in this controversy. It was intended in this editorial neither "to glorify the present administration at the expense of the past glorious history of the college," nor in any way to imply that the beginning of Princeton's ex-cellence and usefulness dated from 1868, and I am at a s to understand how so extreme an interpretation of in the workings of the college within the last few years that some departments of study have been added and existing ones in several cases have been amulified; in a word, that the growing needs of the college have been promptly met. That this is true, an actual investigation of the strius of affairs will more effectually prove than promptly met. That this is in of the status of affirs will ment around of argumentation.

ord is at especial pains to show that all those subjects of study which The Princetonian stated had been added or enlarged since 1868 were in existence before So, is a sense, they were. But, as appears from his own cases two or three of them were grouped together given to one professor, who, it is hard to suppose, could do justice to them all. It was in this sense that the word "added" was used. It was unfortunately chosen, however. Princetonian in a position that it never meant to assume Of course to one can say, except in two or three case that the departments mentioned have been absolute added or created. But the amplification of them has made them all practically new. That several of these were set down as studies in the old catalogues is no argument down as singles in the old catalogues is no argument that they received as much affention them as new Mony of the smaller and confessedly incomplete cells as present in their catalogues a confessedly incomplete cells as present as Harvard's. Yale's, or Princeton's; but ever observer knows how necessarily superficial, on a come of mentionic energy to teaching force and defective anymarate must be the instruction given. In many instances in more than the proposale, whatever rather than the proposale in the number of profesors here, and there are also more adequate arrangement of department. rew and more adequate arrangement of depar simply show that Princeton has been making a gross; and it is a little stronge that this fac prove so beredible and translessome to Dr. Ward.

In the same spirit of interpretation he takes up another statement of The Princetonian's, and gives to it a scope of meaning that was by no means in-tended and that does not, I think, fairly belong to it. He says: "To say that 'we have student here who can' name the fossils of New-Jersey, who can give the names of unfigured invertebrates; much more who are competent to determine unknown or new ver brate species from such fragmentary bones as Prof. Marsh bad in hand when he made his brilliant New Jersey discoveries, is patent nemsense to any decen setentific student." It needs no learned doctor to tell his. Such a claim would be uncommonly absent. I The Princtonian out theline to be made responsible any such "patent non-sense." The simple sancement if we have students who can make the fossils of New Jers

we have students who can name the feesils of New-Jersey camed he wrested into a profession of such pateonalogical profesioner as distinguishes Prof. Marsh. Princeton claims nothing of the sect, nor to turn out at the completion of the curriculum field-fledged scientists, but only to do elementary work thoroughly.

The charge of "exargeration of the present and degreement of the past" scens to me to be groundless. The recent advances of the college are certainly as much a minter of satisfaction to the older alumn as its past history is a matter of pride to councer Principal to the friends of the institution into ancients and medians will be successful. Dr. NeCost sent yearday, in his address at the opening of the term, that he and his co-laborers were only following their filestrous predecessors in aiming steadily to advance the college with the times, and to make it equal to the growns demands upon it. This is all that has been claimed by the irractionism.

J. B. Wandlaw, jr., editor Princelonism.

Princeton, Jan. 4, 1877.

WOMEN AS MINISTERS.

THE NEWARK CASE—TESTIMONY FROM THE BIBLE-PAUL HARD TO UNDERSTAND.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sin: The Rev. Mr. See, a Presbyterian industries of the City of Newark, is now undergoing an electratical trial for the alleged crime of permitting a woman to preach in his pulpit, &c., the presecution being based on the presumption that the command of Paul to the Cerinthian women to keep sflence in the churches is to be understood as generally prohibiting woman from preaching. Even if Paul forbade the Corin thish women to prattle and thus make confesion in pub lie worship, does it follow that it is necessary to apply the prohibition to women in this century ? Paul thought it better for the Corinthians in the "present distress not to marry. I wonder it the ecclesiastical court will enjoin the same on the Newark people. I learn that on some occasions, even in Old Testament times, wome were called of God to prophecy, and I read in the New Testament that "Anna, a prophetess," when she found the infact Savier in the temple, "spake of Him to all them that looked for redemption in Jerusalem." When Christ came to the Samarkans he was preclaimed through the instrumentality of a woman, and " many o them believed on Him through her word." Not only were the first who preached Christ to both Jews and S. maritans women, but the first commussioned to proclaim the risen Savior were also women. On the day of Pentecost "about a hundred and twenty" men and women " were assembled in the upper roum in Jerusalem," and "they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and

"I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy."

It is evident that Paul must have permitted woman to speak publicly in the church at Corinth, when he gave instructions as to what they should wear when praying

began to speak with other tongues as the Spirit gave

them utterance." Peter, speaking by divine inspiration,

says that was the fulfillment of the prophecy by Joel,

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE. or prophesying. Every man praying or prophesying having his head covered dishonoreth his head; but every woman that prayeth or prophesieth with her head uncovered dishonoreth her head. I. Cor., H., 4, 5. Again, in I. Tim., 2d chap., Paul giving instructions concern ing public worship, says: " I will, therefore, that men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands without wrath and doubting, and, in like manner, that women also (pray), in becoming attire, with modesty and soberness

(pray), in becoming attire, with modesty and soberness of mind, not decorating themselves with wreaths, or gold, or pearls, or expensive clotting."

I know of only two passares of Scripture that seem to be against women preaching. The first is found in I Cor., xiv., 34, 32. "Let your women keep silence in the churches; for it is not permitted them—laich—to prattle, to talk, to speak, to be loquacious. "This passage for baste women to interrust the speaker by pratting or asking questions in meeting, commanded obedience to their husbands, and directed them to ask their husbands at home to explain what thex did not understand in the addresses delivered in the assemblies. The other is found in I. Tim., it., 11, 12. "Let the women learn in found in I tim., it., 11, 12. "Let the women learn in found in a woman to teach, or (authentien) to act by her own authority or power over the man, but to be quiet."

One text of Scripture should not be interpreted so as to centraled what is clearly established in the word of Gel elsewhere. Peter says, "Some things in the epistes. Jersey City, Dec. 26, 1876.

COMMISSIONER DUELL'S SUCCESSOR.

A THOROUGHLY COMPETENT MAN NEEDED-LARGER SALARY-PERMANENT TENURE OF OFFICE. To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: In your remarks to-day upon the pending change in the Patent Office, you present a truth in which I, in common with all American inventors, have a direct pecuniary interest. You say: "It is very needful for the interests of inventors that a man of special and trained ability for the office should succeed Mr. Duell." That means a man of some scientific as well as practical attainments, and at the same time specially trained in "parent law." He should add to these at least fair ability and unsulfied integrity.

Such a man as that cannot be had for a cheap price.

He is a man who can and does earn much money as a private citizen, and if we are to secure his services, w must pay him. I say "we," because the cost of maintaining the Patent Office comes from the pockets of paten; men and not from those of the general public. I believe we are quite willing, as a class, to pay for the right kind of man, and for a thoroughly capable corps of

right kind of man, and for a thoroughly capable corps of subordinates to help bim. We would therefore be willing to pay the Patent office more, if need be, in the hope of afterward paying the lawyers less.

A man thoroughly fitted for the post of Commissioner of Patents ennot afford to serve for less than \$10,000 a year, and that wend be a low figure. He would become more valuable with every day's work and experience, and his tenure of office should therefore be for life. The American patent system has been a growth, not a creation, and its present efficiency finds its greatest hinder ance in the crudities and blunders of the last. Inventors are not organized, and so are not capable of combined action. As a class they are note, are senttered. If the or organized, and so are not capable of combined a. As a class they are noor, are scattered. If the would take this matter in hand it might succeed in go one of the oldnest and most important judicial one from the combined curse of rotation in office their malequate compensation.

ad ulterly imalequate compensation.

New York, Dec. 29, 1876. WILLIAM O. STODDARD.

CAUSE OF THE LAKE SHORE DISASTER. QUALITY OF THE IRON USED IN THE BEIDGE-EVILS · OF AWARDING CONTRACTS TO THE LOWEST

To the Editor of The Tribune. Six: I have just read your article on the Lake Shore disaster, and fully agree with you that a searching investigation should be made to ascertain, if possible, who, if any one, is to blame. I think the first and most important question is: Was the bridge bunt by a thoroughly responsible company, or was the conract awarded to the lowest bidder regardless of reputation! And again; Did the contractor make the iron hipself or order it of some rolling milit. Probably some such questions as these might bring to light the root of the evil. The rolling mill firm might go to a number of different furnaces and inform them he had taken an order

very low and must buy plg iron at a low price to enable

him to come out clear. He finally gives his order to the

lowest bidder, and the chances are ten to one a poor quality of iron is furnished at the very start. I might mention instances that have come to my ne ice to show how persons using boilers (and possibly bridges) are sometimes decrived in what they receive, and I firmly believe a great deal of the trouble lies in awarding contracts to lowest bidders. Again I say, let us have a turrough investigation into this Luke Shore disaster and sift the matter to the bottom. Who built the bridge! I Who made the Iroh, and of what quality was it ordered? What grade of iron was used? Those are the questions the tubble want answered, and lef-trem be answered under each.

PRESENT SWITCHES A DISGRACE TO INVENTIVE GENTUS-HOW THEY MAY BE IMPROVED, OR ACCIDENTS MAY BE AVOIDED.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Siz: It is a wonder and a disgrace that, with all the marvels of inventive skill embodied in a loco-motive and its train, the engineer and the legislator still switchman." That such a mechanical arrangement should result in destruction proportioned to the power that is thus set loose is as certain, à priori, as it is that pmon memory is fallible. But this terrible death-trap set 20 reet in the nir on the track of the Elevated Ran way, waiting for the next train. That is the way it was vesterday. The switchman forgot-of course be and "ran with terrible velocity against the forward car of the down train" on the side track. But must we wait for cetastrophes that are possible before taking scenity against the death-trap I. Security may be attained, as it mainst the death-trap I Security may be attained, as if has been since the dissector at the Norwalk drawardize by requiring shi trains to come to a fini stop before pass-ing a switch; by requiring that all switches should be satisfied an and should be open only when held open by a hand-lever for the ingress and exit or trains, as that for main track will be at all times continuous and consider independent of the "switchments" memory; all cievated redway's should be required to laws a double track these provisions should be insisted on by the public, Acts York, Dec. 21, 1876. B.

WAY FREIGHT ON THE CENTRAL. COMPLAINTS OF A RESIDENT OF INTERIOR NEW-YORK-UNJUST DESCRIMINATIONS.,

Sin: I rejoice to see that in your money articles you are beginning to realize the true reason why the New-York Central and Hudson River Railway does not properly serve the interests of New-York City. It on netritions expited. The carvial surveys of the New-York, West Shore and Chicago Bailway made three years bridged first-class railway from New-York to Buffalo, in clinding equipments, about \$42,000,000. The working capital, including indebtedness, of the Central-Hulson is capital, including independences, of the Contral-Hudson is supposed to be about \$130,000,000. The New-York West Shore and Chicago was to have an independent and sheap connection at Buffulo, the Caunda Southern, which has just been taken up by Mr. Vanderbilt. But New York capitalists showed a cold shoulder to that enterprise, which would have done so much to relieve them from aying dividends on water. We in Central New-York have and always have had

We in Central New York have and always have had much more remain to complain of discrimination than you in the city have. We can stantly pay more for freight from New York than is easil from New York to Chicaso. We pay more from Ruffaio than is paid from Ruffaio to New York. When wheat is cight cents from Toledo to New York, we pay 10 cents to Symense and Utlea. When eattle ents are \$10 from Buffaio to Abany, we pay \$40 from Buffaio to Obeath, about half way. And so on all tright; so that we really pay for more of those water dy idents in proportion than you do in New York City. Verson, N. F., Duc. 26, 1876.

A. F. Cash.

The complaint of our correspondent as to the higher rates paid on local freights over those charged on through is an old one, and THE TRIBUNE can reommend no remedy equal to the creation of a calthy public opinion upon the subject. It would se unceasonable to require a railread to handle and carry freight at the same rate per mile for a distance of 25 miles as for one of 500 miles, but to charge 33 per cent more for 200 miles than is charged for 100 is a discrimination with a vengeauce.- Ed.]

WELLAND CANAL NAVIGATION. AMENDED ESTIMATES OF THE COST OF CARRYING GRAIN-BUFFALO NEARER TO BALTIMORE THAN TO NEW-YORK.

To the Editor of The Tribune. SIR: There was a meeting held here to-day at

our Board of Trade rooms which passed resolutions on the subject of commerce, canals, &c. There were present old vessel masters and owners who have been in the business for more than a generation. I find that several intelligent vessel owners and masters do not agree with me in my estimates of the cost of carrying grain to Mon treal when the Weiland Canal is enlarged, mainly be cause there will be a lack of back loading for ballast. They fall to see, as seems probable, that iron ore and foreign imports will in time furnish re-turn loading for vessels bound to the West. I will change my estimates to meet the objections of

these mes. It would be profitable to New-Yorkers to remind them that Amsterdam, in Holland, has just completed its new canal at a cost of \$10,000,000, so as to win back the commerce it has lost—about such a sum as would

pay for the enlargement of the Eric Canal. The following are my amended estimates:

Freight from Chicago to Kingston, Canada, per bush,
of wheat no tells). Charges at Kingston. 11 cents.

Freight in barges, &c., St. Lawrence canals. 2 cents.

REMARKABLE METEORIC DISPLAY. METEOR IN THE ROLE OF A ROMAN CANDLE-AN EXPLOSION IN THE HEAVENS THAT MADE A

HOUSE TREMBLE.
To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: Last night I witnessed a grand display

of Nature's fireworks at about 9 o'clock in the evening. I saw 20 or more meteors moving swiftly from west to east, following each other at unequal distances, but varying but very little from the same direct line of motion. The display lasted perhaps 15 seconds; then, I should judge, in something over a minute after the light had faded out, a heavy sound like the report of artillery broke suddenly upon me, which sensibly shook the ground and made the windows rattle, shaking a house so hard that one of the doors came open. The sound was repeated at short intervals a number of times, each time growing fainter, until it died out far to the west, the sound seeming to move from West to East, while the meteors moved in an opposite direction. A cer' leman told me he saw the meteor lefore it was diminished by explosions, and described it as a luminous, oblong body, the size of a waiter-bucket. Very soon it began to project numerous small bodies of dazzing brightness from its foremost end, which was continued for some time, until after a final bursting, there was nothing left but a number of fiery balls chasing each other like herses on a race track.

Judging from the difference of time between the bursting of the meteor and the sound of the explosion, I supposed it might have been 20 miles above the surface of the enrith, and showing as large as it did from that distance, hust have been of immense size, as the largest balloon would have gone out of sight before rising to one half that dight; and the noise of the explosion must have been more terrific than any that could possibly be caused by human agency.

E. CHOCKETT.

Napoleon, Ohio, Dec. 22, 1876. hard that one of the doors came open. The sound was

caused by human agency. Supoleon, Ohio, Dec. 22, 1876.

THE CALUMET AT WESLEYAN.

To the Editor of The Tribune. SIE: Collegians have been amused by the recent communication of a Wesleyan undergraduate re-ferring to the selection of a young lady of his class for the position of class poet, and her subsequent rejection by her gailant brothers. I was at one time a student at this justly honored school, and I recall that exceedingly engaging custom of smoking the pipe of peace by the sectors. The class poem has always been read before a miscellaneous audience, largely composed of the residents of Middletown. The lattics of that city have, time out of mind, attended the exercises of Class Day. The average judgment will readily conclude that a poem which is read by young men, frequently by young elergymen, before a reputable nudlence can also be safely intrusted to the care of the lady collegians. But the pipe busin ses stargers one. Smoking the calumet may possibly have some guazy, insubstantials sentiment connected with it, but why a custom of the Sloux and Arrapahoes should form a necessary adjunct of Am Frem college life is like Dandreary's commutours, "something which no fellow can find out." If the small vices of undergraduates can be corrected by the promotion of hally students to class distinctions, many doing parents while be found ready for the revolution.

Doyleaton, Penn., Dec. 25, 1876. Poyleston, Penn., Dec. 25, 1876.

FAMILIAR QUOTATIONS.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sin: We have just had a discussion of the propriety of the expression "the exception proves the rule," as used in a late number of The Turst NE, I think. Five who were present contended that it was cor-

rect, from which I dissented and held that "a rule" per Again: I often see the expression used in print "to the manner born." I think Shakespeare soys "to the norm." Is there any nationally of note that justifi mirroduction of the word "manner"? New-York, Jan. 3, 1877.

[If our forrespondent will consult that excellent work, Webster's Dictionary Coabridged, he will find among the definitions of the word "Exception" the following: "That which is excepted or sepa rated from others in a general rale or description," with the following illustration from Cowper:

"Such rave exceptions, shining in the dick, Proce, rather than impeach the last remarks." Again, if "T. R. H." will look into Hamlet, Act 1, Scone 4, he will find "And to the manner born." Shakespeare does not anywhere say " to the manor

MR. GLADSTONE'S LETTER.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sin : In Harper's Monthly for December appears a letter from the Hon. William Ewart Gladstone. risking to justify bla speeches in England relative to the late rebellion. In a letter dated London Aug. 8, 1867, addressed by Mr. Gladstone to Mr. C. Lester Ed-wards at New-York, he says: "I probably like many wards at New-Yerk, he says: "I probably, like many Farapeans, did not understand the nature and working of the American Union." This sentence demonstrates the icnomics and prejudice which have hitherto existed among various interior countries. It is much regretised that anything regreting the late rebellion is revived, which ought to be forgetten, so that peace and hat-nomous feedings may be maintained for the progress of civil and religious liberty in all countries.

Cratescille, Penn., Nov. 17, 1876. TEXAS PACIFIC TO BE PUSHED.

To the Editor of The Tribune. SIR: Report says the Texas Pacific bill is to se pushed through. If you advocate subsidies and pri-ate jobs tacked on, please do not consider this. If you

to over \$50,000,000 wanted for building branches to Mr. Scott's read. These branches could be built for half the money if wanted, but they are simply rival roads to xisting fluished lines which carry United States mails and supplies, and these new roads are only useful to curien speculators and galvanize dead coronations. It is one of the worst cases I ever saw. Under one clause you can build builf a dozen roads in one State.

Near-Fork, Dec. 28, 1876. H. G. MARQUAND. New-York, Dec. 28, 1876.

CONTINENTAL LIFE POLICIES.

To the Editor of The Iribune. Sin: A few weeks since you published a

tatement from an officer of the New-Jersey Mutual Life ee Company, disclaiming any collusion with the officers of the Continental Company. I am a policy bolder in the Continental Life, and reside in Ohio. The following is the substance of a document which was sent to my deress a short time since, and which speaks for itself: As arrangement has been effected whereby your in-erest as a policy holder in the Continental Life Insur-nice Company of New-York will be protected. One of our uponts will end upon you soon, and explain fully, the evence is hereby made to the following letter of Mr., lares, lare general agent of the Continental. Very truly Mannaer New-Jersey Mutual Life Insurance Co. inches, Chie, Dec. 1, 1876.

This circular also contained a note dated Cincinnati, and signed Winfield M. Clark, which said:

I so not see that anything more favorable can be done be the benefit of the poice holders than for them to recent any equitable terms that may be offered by that capping, and I recommend their favorable considera-tion of its propositions. In addition to this a communication was sent to me

com the agent of the New-Jersey Mutual, informing me hat ou is certain day he would call to transfer my solicy from the Continental. It is perhaps needless to add, that I informed the agent that he need not call, as I But who is Winfield M. Ciark, and by whose authority

does he advise policy holders to give up their claims against the Continental Company ! New-York, Jan. 2, 1877.

VALUABLE ANTIQUITIES IN DARK ROOMS. To the Editor of The Tribune. SIR: The recent purchase of Gen. di Ces-

nola's collection of Cyprian antiquities and the interest taken by our public press in Dr. Schilemann's discoveries at Hissarlik and Mycenie, as well as the earnest work of the " Palestine Exploration Fund," have led, naturally, o awaking a considerable interest among students and the reading public generally in the history and archaeology of the ancient world. This leads me to complain that one of the fluest collections of Egyptian anequities in the world-that possessed by the New-York equities in the world—that passessed by the New-York Mistorical Society—is rendered atmost uscless to the atmetent by being placed in their badly-lighted rooms. Not may does this collection seem to me out of place in a state historical society, but the rooms in which the articles are exhibited are so poorly lighted that even on a bright day it is difficult to study many of the objects of this splendid collection, some of which have been releared to in the works of Lepsius, Wilkinson, and other eared to in the worsa of Lepsius, withinson, and other rifers on Egyptologity for the New-York Historical society to be generous. Let them present the collection to the Museum of Art, which will be very glad to let a intle more light into the present Egyptian darkness. New-York, Dec. 27, 1876.

PAYMENT OF SOUTHERN DIVIDENDS.

Yo the Editor of The Tribune. Sm: I am the owner of many thousands of not want office or expect office, and am not going to fight for those that do." Scranton, Penn., Dec. 20, 1876. dollars of so-called securities, on which I have received

no income for several years past. In the article headed "January Dividends," in your paper of Friday, the 22d inst, among the names of States, &c., which will pay on the 1st of January, you include Alabama, Arkanses, and North Carolina. The information has excited in me great hopes, and yet I doubt. Is there not some mistake here I I think they have paid nothing in the past three or four years—the latter not since 1868.

H. P. T.

Hickseille, N. T., Dec. 23, 1876.

INTERRUPTIONS AT CHURCH.

A LETTER FROM THURLOW WEED. AN INCIDENT OF LATE OCCURRENCE-RECOLLEC-TIONS OF MR. MOODY'S WAYS-A PUNGENT HINT FOR THE BRICK CHURCH.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

tally showing an annoyance which he does not feel at liberty to express. On one occasion only have I seen a clergyman avail himself of an interruption of this nature to point a moral. This occurred last Winter at the Hippodrome. It was an evening service. The house was densely (and when was it otherwise?) filled. Five or six thousand faces and twice as many ears were looking and listening to Mr. Moody. An impassioned and elequent portion of his sermon was interrupted by the loud crying of an infant. Mr. Moody paused, and, turning to those sitting near him, entered into conversation with The mother soon succeeded in quieting the child, when Mr. Moody with a cheerful expression of countenance resumed; but not more than five minutes clapsed before a louder wail was heard. Mr. Moody again paused and again entered into conversation until the mother a second time succeeded in quieting her child. In the course of a few minutes, however, the baby's voice was heard for a third time, the mother and father simultaneously rising, with the evident intention to depart. That seemed an almost hopeless undertaking, for they were seated in the center of the immense audience. The parents succeeded, however, in reaching the middle sisle. Mr. Moody, meanwhile, stood, encouraging them with a benignant smale. Their nearest way out was by a side door. There was almost breathless silence as they passed down the middle aisle. When near the preacher he exclaimed: "God bless that mother. I wish there were many more Christian mothers possessing the courage to bring their infants to church when they cannot leave them safely at home." The effect was electrical. A sense of relief

heart. New-York, Jan. 4, 1877.

WHAT DR. BEVAN SAID AND DID.

was felt throughout the bouse. That mother's

heart was not the only one that thanked Mr.

Moody for a seasonable manifestation of sense and

sympathy, which did equal credit to his head and

To the Editor of The Tribune. Siz: If your narration of the incident in the Brick Church last Sunday had given the whole truth of it, the pastor might have been sparred such criticism as that in which Mr. Frey indulges in this morning's Tam UNE. Mr. Frey is in altogether too much of a stew; no body was subjected to "ridicule and deri-ion." The incis are simply these: Some person occupying a conspicuous seat couched more and londer and hoarser than I ever heard my one cough before, and, so far as I could see, made no effort to subdue the moise. Having come over from Brooklyn to bear the new pulpit orator, I was much sunoyed, for I lost many words and the 14th of some expressions in the disorder. A significant glance from the pracher induced the off-inder to cover the month with a handlerchief for a few moments, and thus muffle the seand, but soon this was neglected. Then Mr. Beyan, in the gentlest manner, without the least appearance of hapatience, said: "The person who is compelled to cough so severely would oblige us all by rething." I may antic sympatry for one so afflicted, but the confort of the concregation must be regarded." If you will permit me, Mr. Editor, to miswer Mr. Frey's question addressed to you, I will say I am quite sare "the public will appreciate Mr. Revan's connuct."

E. E. K. mets are simply these : Some person occupying a con

WHY CENTRAL IS NOT TAXED HERE.

LETTER FROM THE COMMISSIONERS. OFFICE OF THE COMPANY IN ALBANY-A CASE DECIDED BY THE COURT OF APPEALS - DOINGS

IN THE PAST. To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: The Commissioners of Taxes observe a comunication in this morning's TRIBUNE, which asserts that this city has suffered a heavy loss in its reve nnes because of a neglect of duty on the part of city officers to assess the capital stock of the New-York Central and Hudson River Railroad Company. The commissioners feel that they might very well be excused from replying to an anonymous letter, but they prefer to lay before you, and to request you to publish a statement made before a legislative conneitize in November, 1874, by Mr. Andrews, a member of this board, tenching this matter.

THE TAX COMMISSIONEES. New-York, Jan. 5, 1877.

The State Assessers in their report for 1873 (page 8) The State Assesses in their report for Isra page 8; refer to rail way corporations which escape exaction owing to an uncertainty as to the location of their principal effice, and recently whos subjectly has been given to an instantation that the Tax Department in this city had faded in its duty in not assessing the New-York Central and Hudson filter Railroad Company for some one hundred mailtens of capital; and when it was shown that there was filed in the department an additival that "the principal office" was in Albany, the compaints affect that the city is the place where the President and most of the directors of that corporation reside; that it is a

ces here, and that a large proportion of here coeffed here.
It these allegations do not present so strong a case of the Western Transportation Company. This tillen, wife a capital of \$900,000, fixed upon the ge of Tonawanda as the place for its principal of witings of Tohawama as the place for its principal once, had one could there at \$150 per year, and held the mouthly meetings of its board of directors there. In the City of Bullido it had 20 electris; there its President, Secretary, and directors resided and chiefly did their misiness; finere he transactions amounted to several hundred theusand delians amountly there its books of account were kept, and there the money from its various offices East and West were received. In the language of the Court of Alpenia, "It was shown also that the object of

account were kept, and there the money from its various offices East and West were received. In the inagrange of the Court of Appends, "It was shown also that the object of the company in locating its principal office at Torowanda was to avoid traxation in the City of Buffalo." And again, upon this point the court said; "It is no sore inequitable or monoral for a corporation to do this tian for an individual to do substantially the same. A person may geep his office in Buffalo and transact business there to an unlimited amount, enjoying all the factilities and advantages which like enterprise and expenditures of the city have affortied, and yet by residing without the city limits avoid all municipal taxation." It aspected that this corporation has been assessed in Buffalo, but the court decided that Buffalo had no right to tax; and that Torowanda, whose it bad designated as its "principal office" was the only place where is could be assessed.

The facts in relation to the New-York Central and Hadson River Railroad Company are briefly these; Originally the New-York Central Company and the was in abbany. In 1868 the Hadson River Railroad Company owned a road 200 miles long, and for many years its principal office was in abbany. In 1868 the Hadson River Railroad Company, owning a road 150 miles long, was consolidated with the New-York Central Company, and the principal office of the nostonidated company and the principal office of the consolidated road remained where the principal office of the naster to be the "principal office" in Albany was declared to be the "principal office of the naster to be the "principal office" in Albany was declared to be the "principal office" in Albany the elections are held, in Albany the directors need, and in Albany—the "principal office" the assessment should be, and for aught to knew, was made. The Hadson River Railroad was formerly assessed here, and after the consolidation the commissioners very preperly continued the assessment, so as to secure sufficient evidence to go on re unt for the disappearance of that corporation from the is; and when that evidence was secured the recors clear, and the commissioners have discharged the reducy. They would have hearred up personal in the interpretation of the commissioners have discharged the reducy. entire duty. They would have incurred a personal fla-bility in assessing a person or corporation not within their jurisdiction. But does not the fact that any uncer-tainty could exist even it the public mind as to the place in winch such a corporation should be assessed afford an-other proof that the security against such contingences which his plan would furnish was needed! [That is, that all corporations in the State should be assessed by state officers at the capital of the State.] REFUSALS TO STOP STREET CARS.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: Can nothing be done to compel the drivers of the Fourth-ave, line of street cars to slacken speed a little for passengers ! On Friday afternoon the driver of car No. 102 of that line refused to stop for a dozen different persons, although there was standing room in the car for that number. A few of them made a flying leap for the car, and, at the risk of their necks, succeeded in getting on. I am aware that the practice of fast driving in order to make up time is whiked at by of hast driving in all the street-enr companies, but as this line is a part of the Hariem Railroad it seems to me that its obligation to stop for passwagers is as aread as a steam train's to stop at a flag station when flagged. Are these matters so very trivial f Are our bones and necks of no conseacnee t Have passengers no rights that the street-car ompanies are bound to respect t A. J. D. New-Fork, Dec. 30, 1876.

WHO WILL DO THE FIGHTING ! To the Editor of The Tribune. Sin: Preach us a sermon on this text: "I do THE POLITICAL CRISIS.

COUNSEL TO SOUTH CAROLINA. THREATS FROM THE REBEL END-WHAT SHALL BE DONE WITH THE STATE ? To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: The Democratic end of South Carolina, which used to be the rebel end, and which thinks it has a right to be the ruling end, proposes to resist the Government of Mr. Chamberlain. The papers of that party, and particularly The Charleston News and Courier, exhaust the resources of double-leaded type and italies to convince the people that they must resist. The Chamberlain Government, they shriek, has no anthority; its tax laws are void; if any-SIR: Incidents which severely try the patience of body pays taxes to the officials of that Governpostors and congregations occasionally occur in all ment, he does so because he prefers to do it, and not Christian churches. They are among the infelicibecause he can be compelled-"the people" will reties of public worship. A clergyman interrupted in member him. Following this mutinous threat is the manner referred to may be pardoned for menthe bald assertion that if "Chamberlain's sheriffs" undertake to sell property for collection of taxes, nobody will dare to buy, and it will be found impos sible to "seil out the whole State." I should judge that some Democratic newspapers in that quarter were likely to become bankrupt soon, if not sustained by official advertising and the facilities for pilfer which some partisan journals enjoy. It is not by any means clear that taxes can be col-

lected in South Carolina by State authority. I am even half tempted to hope that these Democratic threats may be carried into effect. The turbulent spirits of that State have made this country a great deal of trouble and cost it a great deal of blood and treasure, and few would shed many tears if they should persist in bringing upon themselves a suitable punishment. Perhaps it is as well that, in one State, there should be a general confiscation of property and a virtual banishment of the rebellious and disorderly party of the population, so that it may be understood hereafter that

men who resist the laws do so at their peril. As matters stand, the Chamberlain Government is the only one which has the least pretense of authority. Both houses have adjourned sine die. The House which was recognized by the outgoing State officers and by the Senate is the only House which can ever be recognized by the courts. The laws passed by two houses will prevail in place of laws passed by one house only. Certain tax laws were passed by the Scnate and the House of which Mr. Mackey was Speaker, and were signed by a Governor inaugurated in the presence of those two bodies, and those laws will. I hope, be enforced. Whether it is possible to "sell out a whole State" need not now be asked. I strongly suspect that the

money can be found in South Carolina to pay the taxes which may be levied, if that payment will secure ownership of all the land and buildings in the State. If it cannot be found there, it certainly can be in New-York or Boston. If Gov. Chamberlain's officials find it their duty, under the laws of South Carolina, to advertise much of the property in the State for non-payment of taxes, I hope they will perform that duty faithfully. I am sure the approaching sales will not be wholly unknown to capitalists at the North. If the present owners of real estate in South Carolina want to divest themselves of their property, giving it to anybody who will come forward and pay taxes on it, there are many men of moderate means in this part of the country who would like to secure a home and an estate on such easy terms. On the whole, possibly it might be the very best thing conceivable for South Carolina and the country to have these planters, property owners, and merchants who choose to resist the laws sold out, and starved out, and driven out, to earn their bread as best they can in some other State. South Carolina as it is makes trouble. It is a sort of festering sere on the body politic. To tow the entire State out into the Atlan tic and sink it, as was once proposed, would be unjust to innocent persons, but if the mutinous part of the people see fit to sink themselves in an ocean of voluntary bankruptcy, I, for one, shall shed no

New-York, Dec. 27, 1876.

THE ELECTORAL RIGHTS OF STATES. CONGRESS CAN ONLY INQUIRE AS TO THE LEGALITY OF STATE ACTION-AN END TO PRESIDENTS IF

PURTHER STEPS ARE TAKEN. o the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: The danger that now threatens the country is that of compromising away the plain requirements vote. For the sake of settling a vexed question, many appear willing to sacrifice principle to political or comnerelal expediency. Peace purchased at such a price has in it all the elements of discord and mischief. The electoral system rests upon the dectrine of State soverignly or State rights. In spite of all efforts to change this basis, the Democratic party has persistently refuse to submit the election of President and Vice-President to has ever been and still is the only authoritative of ermee for deciding this question. In this view it becomes net so much the matter of an honest election, as to inquire what decision the constituted State authorities save rendered. If Congress must be satisfied that a strictly honest and fair election has been had in each of the thirry-nine States before a President can be declared or accepted, we have already had our last President, and

he beign of anarchy has already begun. If returning boards and State Executives have conformed to the legal requirements governing their action. their returns must be accepted as final, even though the popular will is not thereby truly represented. The voice of the States and not the popular vote legally decides the Presidential question. If a State cannot command an Presidential question. If I state cannot command monest election let it suffer the penalty of its own acts, Committees of Congress cannot safely go further than to investigate the legality of the action of returning boards and State Executives and toeir conformity with State and National laws. An erroccous decision on the part of the President of the ate cannot afford a revolutionary precedent for the

The Republican party will stand firmly upon the only The Republican party will stand firmly mon the only strond it can constitutionally maintain to the end by refusing to go behind the simple face of the legality of the action of returning boords and State Executives, and by demancing that the returns legality rendered be accused, in softe of partisan attempts to miscepresent the will of the people. To go beyond this will open questions and dangers fatal to like continuance of a constitutional form of covernment. As the President of the Senate is by the Constitution empowered solely to open the certificates, he must be permitted solely to decide as to their validity; Congress must accept his decision, because its constitutional power extends only to a wifnessing of the count; if there is any precedent to the contrary, it is in; the nature of a marpation of authority, which must be rejected now, if ever. The evident result from our present mode of counting the cleronal voic can be removed only by changing the system itself; to attempt to mitigate or escape them by evasion or compromise will be revolutionary and may prove a fatal experiment.

Utica, Dec. 28, 1876.

7. P.

"RECONSTRUCTION A FAILURE." MORAL COURAGE WANTING TO ENFORCE THE PROP-

ERTY QUALIFICATION-NEGROES AND IGNORANT WHITES-THE CONVICTIONS OF AN AGED MAN. To the Editor of The Tribune. SIR: In your SEMI-WEEKLY issue of the 22d

mst. I find a letter addressed to you by Dr. Leonard Bacon of New-Haven, entitled "Black and White," or Recenstruction a Failure," which expresses the views which I have long held on universal suffrage. When the property qualification was abolished neither party of that day had the moral or physical courage to enforce, or so far as I know, to propound any qualification whatever to the voter for the privilege of enjoying the right to the voter for the privinge of the priving of the Neither, as Dr. Bacen observes, could there then be found men—a few influential men, in or out of Congress of either party—willing to lead the minds of others to the necessity of some qualification for the negroes of the south, because I suppose it was felt that such a thing the necessity of the priving and the south of the south

South, because I suppose it was feit that such a thing was equally necessary for the "landard toreigners" and for these who are called the "poor whites" of the South. I can therefore see no way of preventing similar or even, if possible, worse complications in the future but to take President Grant's suggestion in his last message (seconded as it is by Dr. Bacen) into serious deliberation by patriotic members of both parties. Should the present troubles result in the wise amendment of our electoral and naturalization laws, it may yet be turned into a blessing and not a curse, as it is this day. Also, the degma that "to the victors belong the spoils" ought to be abolished. If there exist a good and true man in office, let him remain, whether Democrats or Republicans hold the reins of government.

In consideration of the decided stand you have taken in the present contest, Lagain, through our club agent.

In consideration of the decided stand you have taken in the present contest, I again, through our club agent, renew my subscription to THE SEMI-WEEKLY THERENE, although, as you can see by my crooked lines, owing to failing sight, my grandebildren kindly read the paper to me, I having reached 79 years of age on the 7th lint. Westhampton, N. Y., Dec. 27, 1876.

FLORIDA'S ELECTION FAIR.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sin: It is such miserable twaddle as that in Florida that is disgusting every independent Republican,

paper and taught me Republicanism, I have done with that party for the present. I voted for Hayes in Florida, and I declare to fou that I never knew a later de tion to be held, and yet the vote was thrown out, as it is charged (and as I believe), because it was homography. Branford, Conn., Dec. 28, 1876. D. L. WILLET. WATTS NOT INELIGIBLE.

TION AS SENATOR-HAYES AND TILDEN CANDI-DATES WHILE HOLDING PUBLIC OFFICES.

REASONS FROM PRECEDENTS-CLAY'S FIRST FLEC

To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: The whole controversy with regard to the Oregon elector seems to turn on this question: May not a man, legally disqualified, be elected to an office and afterward legitimately take the office, provided the disability be removed ! What has been the practice heretofore in regard to civil offices? Was not Henry Clay elected Senator of the United States by the Lexislatur of Kentucky before he had attained the constitutional age of thirty years, taking his seat, however, after he had reached the required use !

Whichever has been elected President of the United States, whether Gov. Tilden or Gov. Hayes, the one of the other has been elected (by the electoral colleges) the other has been elected by the electron concerns when Governor, of a State. Should his term of office as Governor not expire before the 4th of March, no one would suppose he could note the effice both of P resident and Governor. He must either decline the one or resign the other. Yet dues any or e imagine that there is anything illegal in its being elected President while still holding the office of Governor! And why may not a man be elected a Presidential elector when looking the moding the effect of tovernor! And way may not a man be elected a Presidential elector when holding the office of postmaster and take the office, provided he first reagms his postmastership? And surely if he creates a vacancy by abscuting houself from the meeting of the electoral college, he may be elected by his colleagues to (ii) the vacance. Lafayette College, Easton, Penn., Dec. 13, 1875.

BROOKLYN VICTIMS AND THE SOUTH. REPLY TO UNJUST REFLECTIONS-SYMPATHY OF A SOUTHERN CITY FOR BROOKLYN,

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Siz: As a subscriber to your great paper in a Southern State, I would protest against such commi cations as one published in the tsene of Dec. 11, and signed "B. G. B." of Brooklyn. It is time that these wholesale abuses of the unfortunate people of the South should cease. They are mortifying and exasperating enough when used in a political sense. They are as an

not as they are false. At such a time, in such a connection, who but fanatics, the insincere, the cowardly and contemptible, would permit their minds to be occupied by such thoughts? Even admitting all "B. G. B." says to be frue, ever admitting "that 300 corpses of hapless blacks now lie in

mess for the insulf, effected and published, to the unformate victims of the Brooklyn like. Even in this hope-leady Democratic State all bewall that heart-rending scene. Our city mourns. Our people, with but one topic of conversation, shed bitter tears for Brooklyn in her sorrow. Nor is there to be found one single into, Democrat or not, so far forgetful of contition prepriety even to mention the political question in the same breath with the Brooklyn fire. Naghville, Tenn., Dec. 15, 1876.

AN ARMY STORY FOR CRONIN. To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: The famous Cronin's organization of himself reminds me of something which occurred in the 16th Regulars in Nashville, Tenn., in 1866. The regiment was possessed of a seggeant very pompous and ignorant, by the name of Flannigan. Upon the day in queson he was sergeant of the guard, and the commanding officer and the officer of the day being absent he felt that he was in command of the garrison. It so happened that a gentlemen by the name of Lynch, formerly on the Gov erner's staff at Albany, had enlisted and been consigned to the regiment, with the understanding that he was to have the regiment, with the understanding that he was to have an examination and receive a commission; but, owing to some irregularity, he was doomed to discapointment and was appointed sergeaut-major of the regiment. Serget-Maj-Lynch insueding by assumed the daties of his office without waiting for his uniform. On the day mentioned he had reduced the number of the guerd, as we were short of men. Serget Flannigan who stuttered body, came foanding with rose to the adjutant's office, and seeing no one but a very quiet civilian writing at one of the desis, demanded, "Who-who-who in he-i has been interfering with my guard." See, Mr. Lynch looked up and quietly remarked that he had better make less noise. "No-no, be-be jaliers, 1-I am in co-commind at crisen, and we won't allow my belody to thin-terfore with me guard. Who-who done it?" "Well," said Mr. Lynch, "I done it." "Yen done it; who-who are you, anyhow?" I When who done if I well, said Mr. Lynen, "turne, "turn

THEDEN'S POPULAR VOTE. WHAT IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN WITH INTIMIDATION

LIFT OUT-EFFECT OF STORIES TOLD IN OHIO AND WISCONSIN.

Bridgeport, Conn., Dec. 26, 1876.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Six: I have noticed several editorial articles in THE TRIBUSE explaining away the majority Mr. Tilden

received of the popular vote at the recent election, by the south, the increased vote for Gov. Hayes would have wised out that majority. Now, while there is a good deal of evidence tending to show that the Republicans have worked upon the foors

show that the Republicans have worked upon the feers and prejudices of the negroes more successfully than have the Democrats, I shall not dispute your assumption, but will concede that enough negroes were kept from the polls, or were induced to vote the Democratic ticket by unfair means, not only to have reduced Mr. Tillden's majority of the popular vote to zero, but to have given the States of Alabama and Mississiphi to Haves, thus declayedy settling the Pro-klential contest; provided, no other factor is taken into account. But you know no well the effect the stories of Santhern ournages had on public opinion at the North, to deay that many choiseands of votes were earned for Hayes by this organism alone. This argument, I have no doubt, furned the scale in Onio and Wiscousie, and probacly several other Northern States. Thus would the moderity of the position as well as the electoral vote have been more certain for Mr. Tilden without a "Solid South," than by it, had the whole question and ournage and intimidation been climinated from the contest.

Tog Shppi, Wis., Dec. 12, 1876.

TWO BITES OF THE CHERRY.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Siz: The article in your issue of Tuesday

headed "Compromise" is certainly sound. The office of President or Vice-President cannot be traded away y a committee of Congress or any other committee. It Hayes and Wheeler have been legally elected, of which there seems little doubt, then Hayes and Wheeler must there seems little doubt, then Hayes and Wheeler must be mangurated, and not Tilden and Wheeler, or Hayes and Tilden, or any other combination of candidates. But there might be "compromise" to this extent; In the distribution of patronage by Mr. Hayes, let a fair and find share of offices be given to Democrats. If this emild be done, and the fact that it would be done could be made known, it seems to me the effect would be decidedly transpublizing. The recent contest resulted so nearly in a drawn fight that the present seems a good fine as to claim that " to the victor belongs the spoils."

Brooklyn, Dec. 27, 1876.

J. E. Torser.

HE DOES NOT LIKE DEMOCRACY. To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sin: I give you below some of the reforms which the Democratic party is responsible for: The removal of the Missouri compromise; the attempt to force slavery into Kansas against the wish of the people; the scattering of our navy and manutlens of war in order to aid in secession; the attempt to prevent Lincoin's inauguration, and his final assassination; crying coin's inauguration, and his final assassination; crying that the war was a follure; the assassination of colored soldiers during the war; the intimidation of colored sold near to prevent a free vote; the stuffing of build box's, and a cry of reform; the readiness to send men South to prevent an homest count by the electors, and to see that Theorem to the country of the electors are counted in; and the readiness to cry fraud on the part of the Republican party, and yet ready to steal the constitutional right of the President of the Senate to open and count the electoral vote.

Plainfield, N. J., Dec. 25, 1876.

E. LAMPHEAR.

THE SUPREME COURT OF FLORIDA. To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: In your issue of Dec. 27, in speaking of the Supreme Court of Florida, you say "Supreme Courts down there are of a very queer kind." One of that court is the Hon. Robert B. Van Valkenburgh, formerly Minister to Japan, and an ex-Congressman formerly Minister to Japan, and an ex-Congressman from the Steuben and Allegany District of this State. He was a Whig, an original Republican, an ex-cloud of volunteers, and ex-brigadier-general of New-York militia, and is a good lawyer, a noble man and an estocamed citizen. His name can be found among the candidates for speaker at Albany in one notable instance where for weeks no choice was made after repeated building.

Harpersville, N. Y. Dec. 28, 1876. INDEPENDENT.

NO VOTE FOR HAYES IN GEORGIA COUNTIES. To the Editor of The Tribune. SIR: The election returns of Georgia, as pub-

lished in this city, show that in Bullock, Columbia, Elbert, Irwin, Lincoln, and Rabun Counties, where the white population numbers 16,384, and the colored popuspent the last ten Winters in Florida, and, although I never yet have voted the Democratic ticket except when

intion 19,820, Mr. Hayes did not receive a single vote, and yet the Democrats claim a fair election in Georgia. They may have had a "fair" election for Democratis-just such an election as the party in the South desired-but the North will not believe it.

Washington, D. C., Nov. 30, 1876.